FBIS DAILY REPORT

CONTENTS

Latin America

Vol VI No 034

20 February 1981

ARGENTINA

Castro Madero Denies Nuclear Bomb Report B 1
Papers, Politicians Hit Current Economic Policy B 1
LA PRENSA Editorial 15 Feb B 1
Economic Newspaper's Criticism B 2
[HERALD 19 Feb]
Devaluation's Financial Effect B 3
Balbin Denies Agreement With Military Officials B 3
Bar Association Wants 'State of Siege' Lifted B 3
[HERALD 19 Feb]

BOLIVIA

Armed Forces in Charge of Fighting Drug Traffic C 1
Air Minister Calls on People To Fight Drug Traffic C 1
Taiwan Armed Forces Commander Visiting La Paz C 1

BRAZIL

JORNAL: U.S. El Salvador Policy Counterproductive D 1
[JORNAL DO BRASIL 19 Feb]
Itamaraty: Argentine Nuclear Program Peaceful D 1

CHILE

President Reviews Government's Achievements E 1
[ERCILLA 4-10 Feb]

COLOMBIA

M-19 Group Extends Bitterman Deadline by 15 Days F 1
Part of M-19 Document Published F 1
Searches Carried Out F 1

PARAGUAY

Febreristas Assail Government 'Patriotism' H 1
[HOY 17 Feb]
Liberal Youth Protest Student Arrest by Police H 1
[HOY 16 Feb]
Journalists Union Requests Release of Colleague H 1
[HOY 18 Feb]

URUGUAY

New Foreign Minister To Continue Policies K 1

MEXICO

President Receives Cuban Mission; Hails Relations M 1
Cuban Official's Comments M 1
Defense Secretary Says Entire Country Peaceful M 2
President Meets With Costa Rican Vice President M 2

PANAMA

PDC Criticizes Repeated Government Failures N 1
[LA PRENSA 19 Feb]
LA REPUBLICA Calls Haig Message 'Act of Arrogance' N 1
[17 Feb]
Students Call Meeting Against 'Black Hawk IV' N 2
[MATUTINO 19 Feb]
CRITICA Opposes Maneuvers [19 Feb] N 2

CENTRAL AMERICA

COSTA RICA

U.S.-USSR Regional Conflict Could Spark World War P 1
Status of Controversial Station To Be Studied P 1
Public Security Officials Displeased With Charges P 1

EL SALVADOR

FDR Spokesman: U.S. Preparing Massive Intervention P 2
PDC Leader Against Sending of U S. Troops P 2
[EL DIARIO DE HOY 19 Feb]
Article Praises U.S. Ambassador to Honduras P 3
[LA PRENSA GRAFICA 10 Feb]
Army Dismantles Camp; Guerrillas Flee Into Jungle P 3
[LA PRENSA GRAFICA 18 Feb]
FMLN Issues War Bulletin No 43 on 18 February P 4
FMLN Commander Reports Actions on Eastern Front P 4
[Radio Venceremos]
FMLN Member on Objectives at Nonaligned Conference P 5
[Havana]
PDC Protests Nicaraguan Rights Commission Closure P 5

GUATEMALA

Minister Discusses Talks With Colombia, Honduras P 6
Cooperation Agreement Signed With Colombia P 7
Minister Comments on Embassy Seizure in Mexico P 7
Police Patrol Attacked in Front of U.S Embassy P 7
Amnesty International Report Described as 'Biased' P 8
Deputies Air Views on Expected Meeting With Reagan P 8
Congressman Willing To Approve War If Called On P 8
Broad Front Members To Honor Election Agreement P 9

HONDURAS

Foreign Ministers Discuss Colombia Border Rights P 10
Government Charges New Sandinist Incursion P 10
Police Protecting Ministries: Reason Unknown P 11
Arms, Ammunition Confiscated at Omoa Port P 11
Briefs: Fuel Price Increase P 11

NICARAGUA

Borge Addresses Rally on Sandino's Ideology P 12
Further Remarks P 13
Official on U S. 'Malevolence' Toward Nicaragua P 14
Withholding of U.S. Wheat Loan Assailed P 14
Priest Charges U.S. Starting Economic Blockade P 15
'People of United States' Distinct From 'Yankees' P 16

Embassy Statement Denies Arms Smuggling P 17
National Airline Suspends Flights To El Salvador P 17
Foreign Ministry Refutes Apology Reports P 18
Junta To Punish Occupation of Private Lands P 18
Junta Confirms Tomas Borge as Interior Minister P 18
FSLN Reports on First Sandinist Assembly P 19
FSLN Official Meets With Canadian Labor Leaders P 19

CUBA

Embassy Protection Increased; No News on Hostages Q 1
Havana Reports President Reagan's Economic Program Q 1
Mora Herman: Drums of War Beat in White House Q 2
Professionals Receive Doctor of Science Degrees Q 3
Del Valle Chairs Academy of Sciences Ceremony Q 3

CASTRO MADERO DENIES NUCLEAR BOMB REPORT

PY192319 Paris AFP in Spanish 1954 GMT 19 Feb 81

[Text] Buenos Aires, 19 Feb (AFP)--Vice Adm Carlos Castro Madero (ret), chairman of the Argentine Nuclear Energy Commission (CNEA), has denied a British newspaper's report noting that Argentina was in possession of a nuclear bomb.

Castro Madero said that the article gives the impression that the sources cited are not familiar with the processes involved in taking fuels out of a nuclear plant. He emphasized that this was not an easy task.

He said: Furthermore, Argentina is subject--as is known--to the control of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), which could testify to the truth as to whether there was loss of, or diversion of plutonium for inappropriate purposes.

Castro Madero said that the only nuclear plant now in operation in the country is turned off every 3 years to guarantee its proper functioning, and he made it clear that this was not designed to withdraw plutonium from it.

He added that the international organization checks every turning off of the turbines through a movie camera which focuses on all those places through which fuel could be withdrawn.

PAPERS, POLITICIANS CRITICIZE CURRENT ECONOMIC POLICY

LA PRENSA Editorial

PY191220 Buenos Aires LA PRENSA in Spanish 15 Feb 81 Section 2 p 1

[Editorial: "Welcome Crisis and Political Reality"]

[Text] The day-to-day, ever-increasing seriousness of the economic crisis that the country is suffering is causing general concern, and this concern is not being fully recognized by the economic authorities who, in the public's opinion, seem reluctant to adopt the indispensable corrective measures, as though this crisis was foreign to their own tenure and was the exclusive responsibility of the incoming government which will assume its mandate effective the beginning of April. Urgent corrective measures must be sought for serious current situations, which are no more than the result--which we anticipated in these columns--of an erroneous and gradualist economic policy.

The speculation that the current crisis will explode with its worst effects during the tenure of the incoming government, and thus give credibility to the current government, does not have a logical basis or ethical substance. The current authorities have the legal and moral obligation to immediately adopt all necessary measures to cushion the serious economic crisis that is in progress and assume the patriotic attitude of rectifying their own rehearsals in economic policies that have failed by getting rid of uncompromising attitudes and capricious prejudice. The destiny of the nation is above any type of personal political interests. If the authorities acted otherwise, the people would have the right to judge those responsible not only for their errors but also for their basic lack of political ethics in this national emergency.

The current economic crisis--which has led to the economic failure of many important and productive enterprises, the bankruptcy of many banks and financial enterprises and a run on the exchange market that has been exhausting the country's gold and reserves at a rate of $200 to $300 million during the past few days--is the climax of an obdurate economic policy based on the issuance of money continued to extremes in order to fund the imbalance in the public sector; and there has been an attempt to try and repress its natural effect on the cost of money by establishing distorted, political prices for foreign exchange and capital.

The manipulation of the official rate of exchange--which is significantly lower than the free rate of exchange--with the purpose of maintaining the rise of industrial and agricultural costs and prices at a rate below that of money issuance, has caused a notable distortion of relative prices and the relationships among the various goods produced and traded on the market, thus provoking a serious deterioration in the production economy, a situation that must be corrected if an expansion of the crisis is to be avoided. The run that is going on at this time in the exchange market is the consequence of this distorting manipulation of the price of foreign exchange in an economy with an open and intense inflation.

In turn, the official regulation of the interest rate, placing it significantly out of range of parity with the profitability of the enterprises which would be determined naturally in a free money market, meant that the banks gradually appropriated the capital of the producers who have become unable to cancel their capital and interest debts in a market in which the overall liquidation of the productive assets of enterprises is, for obvious reasons, impossible. The overall lack of solvency crisis that is currently being experienced by banks and finance companies is a consequence that stems from this situation. The Argentine banking system is today threatened with destruction.

The failure of these rehearsals in economic policies, such as the measures for containing an uncontrollable inflation produced by the issuance of money to pay for the state's excessive expenditures, indicates the lack of coherence in gradualist policies and the need of immediately removing the conditions that have provoked this situation by adopting an overall economic program which, with valor and patriotism, the current authorities will, with truth, propose to the country before the destruction of the national economic and financial system becomes irreparable.

Economic Newspaper's Criticism

PY191953 Buenos Aires HERALD in English 19 Feb 81 p 11

[Text] (NA)--Tuesday night's television talk by Economic Minister Jose Martinez de Hoz was lambasted by the economic daily AMBITO FINANCIERO as "deceptive" because of special selection of journalists who drilled the minister and censorship of the film footage.

The journal also denounced the "technical measures" used by the Economy Ministry to slow the panicky purchases of dollars, saying this was achieved at a "high social and recessive cost".

The three-column article which splashed across the front page of the daily stated that the economy minister merely "told us all what we already knew: That his time is over, although one must admit that he defended his programmes and economic projects over the last 5 years quite well and with conviction".

The paper charged that journalists who had planned to witness the program were expelled from the studio, while certain other ones were selected to grill the minister. When the taping was over, they said, the film footage was censured.

Ruben Rabanal, secretary of the Radical Civic Union's (UCR) Economic Commission, joined in the criticism of the minister and his economic programme. "There is no way of patching-up the current economic crisis", the former national deputy declared. "What we need straight and plain is a new economic model", he added.

The real problem now, he said, is not the instrumentation of the economic model, nor the devaluation of the peso and the subsequent run on the dollar, but the model itself. He suggested that to calm the current "crisis of confidence", in-coming President Roberto Viola should address the public immediately and announce the members of his economic team and explain what his new economic plan will be.

Rabanal also challenged the notion that the huge fall in government reserves was caused by "people forming lines in San Martin Street to change their peso savings into dollars. This doesn't add up to 50 million dollars," he said.

Rather, he reasoned, the speedy drain on government holdings is accounted for by the cancellation of foreign credits by large companies, including multinationals, which in some cases amount to $30 million.

Devaluation's Financial Effect

PY191426 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1126 GMT 19 Feb 81

[Excerpts] Buenos Aires, 19 Feb (NA)--For the first time since the devaluation on 3 February, there has been no decrease in gold reserves and foreign currency, but the crisis created by the devaluation has now been transferred to the financial market, where interest rates for 30-day deposits have reached 8 percent a month, and interest rates for short-term deposits have reached 160 percent a year.

The exchange market began its activities yesterday with noticeable calm and continued to relax even more during the day. This was reflected in the decrease of the U.S. dollar exchange rate of 1.3 percent for buying and 1.7 percent for selling. At the end of the day the dollar exchange rate was 2,260 pesos for selling and 2,300 pesos for buying.

BALBIN DENIES AGREEMENT WITH MILITARY OFFICIALS

PY192233 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1940 GMT 17 Feb 81

[Excerpt] Buenos Aires, 17 Feb (NA)--Talking about the recent devaluation of the peso Ricardo Balbin, president of the Radical Civic Union (UCR) board, said today that "it is amazing that "Economy Minister Jose Alfredo Martinez de Hoz has not resigned." Balbin made this statement during the program "Nuevo Dia" that is broadcast on Radio Mitre. He said that if the economy minister had resigned "at least part of the responsibility of the armed forces would have been lifted." Regarding the economic program, Balbin said that "in addition to doing so much harm to the country, it has undermined the credibility of government officials, and by doing this it has undermined one of the most important aspects of any government--prestige and a good reputation." Asked about a rumor that he had made a "gentlemen's agreement" with high-ranking military officials that he will not hinder the coming to power of Lt Gen Roberto Eduardo Viola (ret), he said: "That is completely false and it is ill-intentioned. I believe that these rumors do not come from military sources but probably from 'apolitical' sectors that fear the future."

BAR ASSOCIATION WANTS 'STATE OF SIEGE' LIFTED

PY191854 Buenos Aires HERALD in English 19 Feb 81 p 11

[Text] (NA)--The Argentine Federation of Bar Associations (FACA) called for the lifting of the state of siege in a statement released yesterday. FACA considered it inappropriate for the state of siege measures--which suspend certain constitutional rights and give the police and armed forces extraordinary powers--to remain in force, since "the state of siege is a measure concurrent with the domination of a current uprising (which) cannot be applied after (the uprising) has been put down, when calm reigns and (when) the government has said that it possesses the necessary means to impede any attempt to disturb (public) order." The lawyers added that in view of the fact that the state of siege had been in effect in this country for the past 6 years, it would be "advisable to lift such an exceptional state so as to reestablish full constitutional guarantees."

ARMED FORCES IN CHARGE OF FIGHTING DRUG TRAFFIC

PY191305 Paris AFP in Spanish 1421 GMT 18 Feb 81

[Text] La Paz, 18 Feb (AFP)--The Bolivian Government has announced that the National Directorate for the Control of Dangerous Substances, an organization in charge of fighting drug addiction, is now under the jurisdiction of the armed forces.

The Interior Ministry, which has had jurisdiction over the control of drug traffick, released the resolution transferring this responsibility to military units of the entire nation for the control and repression of illegal marketing and production of dangerous substances. President Luis Garcia Meza announced last week that the armed forces have declared an all-out war on national and international rings of drug traffickers.

AIR MINISTER CALLS ON PEOPLE TO FIGHT DRUG TRAFFIC

PY191556 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 2326 GMT 17 Feb 81

[Excerpt] La Paz, 17 Feb (LATIN)--The Bolivian Air Force (FAB) today called on the people to report drug traffic activities so they can be repressed and eliminated "no matter who may fall." The FAB command today released the text of the speech delivered yesterday by the air minister, Gen Waldo Bernal Pereyra, at the inauguration of a military institute's academic year.

General Bernal, who is also FAB commander, restated and confirmed the intervention of the Bolivian Armed Forces in the repression of drug traffic, considered one of the "worst ills" affecting the country. Gen Luis Garcia Meza, chief of state and army commander, last Friday ordered armed forces intervention in fighting drug traffic.

The air force commander labeled a "duty" the actions to be carried out against "this apocalyptic scourge." He justified the military intervention "because the police efforts to fight these criminals, armed better than ever, were not sufficient." He reported that the processing and trafficking of drugs in Bolivia are "supported from abroad with large capital and amazing means of communications to move, armed, by surface and air." He went on to say that "the whole contingent" of the armed forces will be used "to defend and preserve national honor." General Bernal said that "every officer must consider himself a guard and fighter "in the struggle against the drug traffic."

TAIWAN ARMED FORCES COMMANDER VISITING LA PAZ

PY171830 La Paz Radio Illimani Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 17 Feb 81

[Excerpts] President Luis Garcia Meza received today, in a special audience given at government palace, Gen Hao Pai-tsun, commander in chief of the Nationalist China Armed Forces, who expressed greetings on behalf of the armed institutions and government of his country.

He expressed the desire of the Republic of China Government to strengthen still more the links of fraternity and economic cooperation with Bolivia. He also [words indistinct] to promote the bonds of cooperation and exchanges between the armed institutions. The high-ranking ROC officer concluded by stating that the links between the armed forces of Nationalist China and Bolivia are excellent. The commander in chief of the ROC Armed Forces arrived in this country yesterday accompanied by his wife and two officers. They will remain here until this Thursday.

JORNAL: U.S. EL SALVADOR POLICY COUNTERPRODUCTIVE

PY200136 Rio de Janeiro JORNAL DO BRASIL in Portuguese 19 Feb 81 p 10

[Editorial: "A Cold Shower"]

[Excerpts] The firmness, and even the subtleness, with which the U.S. Government began to implement its foreign policy have now turned into a surprising anticlimax when applying that policy to Latin America.

Moreover, what is even worse than Roger Fontaine's article is the fact that the State Department has unleashed a crusade under the banner of fighting communism in El Salvador. The question to be asked is where were the thoughts of policymakers such as Mr Fontaine when, on their own account, they turned the clock of continental history back 20 years, clearly harming the United States, to a time when Cuba was also an enthusiastic center of revolutionary spirit and ideological preaching and at that time the effects of that preaching were not known.

Many things have happened during the past 20 years. Mr Fidel Castro acquired white hair in the inglorious struggle trying to implement a viable economy. Che Guevara died in Bolivia, and with him the idea that in this part of America there must be "one, two, three, many vietnams." Instead of this, what Portuguese and Spanish-America saw emerge were new regional development poles [polos], some of them, such as Mexico and Venezuela, based on their wealth in oil, and others, such as Argentina and Brazil, based on the sum of their potential.

It is not strange, then, that within such a framework the overthrow of a Somoza has not to the present time given way to Nicaraguan Castro, and that within the fatal destabilization of El Salvador the guerrillas have been incapable of taking the lead. After its recent defeats, the broad front of these guerrillas will offer to come to the negotiating table as a last resort so as not being left out of anything.

And it is at the time that radicalism is discredited and the pragmatists are winning that the Latin American talents of Reagan's government will, at full speed, rehabilitate the left.

The infiltration of weapons for the Salvadoran guerrillas having been verified, the Reagan government had no need to ask for authorization to grant the aid he thought necessary to the junta that still governs El Salvador. He did not even have to offer "unconditional support" to the junta: instead, he could measure that support in such a way that he could have the junta itself purge the groups that have been involved in some of the recent bloody massacres regarding Nicaragua. The United States had (and has) an excellent source of pressure in the abundant aid granted to an economy destroyed by war. In this respect, the Sandinists are so hog-tied that they have not been able to resolve their problem regarding internal politics; and there is nothing that indicates that they will do so in the near future.

ITAMARATY: ARGENTINE NUCLEAR PROGRAM PEACEFUL

PY192359 Paris AFP in Spanish 2056 GMT 19 Feb 81

[Text] Brasilia, 19 Feb (AFP)--Itamaraty's spokesman Bernardo Pericas said today in Brasilia that the Argentine nuclear program is devoted to the peaceful utilization of atomic energy.

Pericas told the press that there was no information available indicating that the Argentine Government intends to manufacture atomic bombs.

The Itamaraty spokesman made this remarks in response to an article carried today in the British newspaper THE GUARDIAN which says that Argentina has or is about to have an atomic bomb. On inquiry by AFP, spokesmen for the Army Ministry, Air Force Ministry and Navy Ministry said that they had nothing to say on the subject.

PRESIDENT REVIEWS GOVERNMENT'S ACHIEVEMENTS

PY191814 Santiago Chile ERCILLA in Spanish 4-10 Feb 81 p 17

[Text] Traditionally it is read on 11 September. But this time, due to the plebiscite that was held on that date, Pinochet released his presidential message only last week. The delay allowed him to include a more complete review of the country's economic and social situation. According to the president, many goals have been achieved. Despite the international economic crisis, the GDP amounted to 6.5 percent and inflation was reduced to 31.2 percent. The chief of state asserted that these two successes permitted a tax reduction in September amounting to $200 million, when approximately 850,000 minor taxpayers were exempted and income tax and the overall complementary tax were reduced for a similar number of taxpayer. The current foreign trade policy, with a favorable balance of payments, seems to be concerning some people. They assert that it has been obtained by running the country excessively into debt. When answering that last year's net external debt in real terms was lower than that of the 1970's, he also took advantage of the occasion to clarify that the current economic development is not aimed at alarming the lower income groups.

According to him, based on data of a separate study, the distribution of income during 1979 is similar to that of the previous decade. Pinochet asserted that even the social expenditures, reorientated to the needy sectors of the population, have increased by 86.9 percent compared to 1970, thus reducing infant mortality and increasing preschool services by five fold, as well as starting a program of subsidies for the ever-neglected rural living quarters in addition to 10,000 subsidies for urban living quarters. However, it can be gathered from the presidential message that the education sector is probably the one where the most changes took place, besides the modifications in the labor and social security sectors, all of which belong to the seven modernizations which were announced in September 1979, which is when the labor program was started. According to the president's message this program is unquestionably successful.

The average salary increase obtained by the workers through this program was 7 percent higher than the consumer price index. The changes programmed for the education sector are also radical. For the first time the direct management of the schools, which has always been in the hands of the state, will be transferred to the townships, which will mean that the trend to channel money toward basic studies will continue. The government has asserted that this trend will act significantly to improve the redistribution of that expenditure. This new trend will also affect the universities. According to the president's message, the new legislation will allow the starting of a new higher education system, which will eliminate the country's traditional structure aimed at university professions.

In referring to the results of the country's foreign policy, the president emphatically pointed out that the economic success as well as the institutional progress has deserved the "complete respect of all the countries of the world." Pinochet stated that this recognition was strengthened by Brezhnev's confession when explaining the Soviet intrusion in Afghanistan. However, the greatest effort of the Chilean foreign policy was centered in the American continent, since this is the only way to make "Latin America once again an active and respectable interlocutor, capable of playing an important role in world affairs." In this regard he pointed out the enormous importance of relations with Brazil, as well as the visit the Brazilian president paid to Chile and the agreements signed on that occasion. Regarding the neighboring countries, he stated that a process of lessening tensions and rapprochement with Argentina continues while John Paul II's mediation is carried out. At the same time, Chile has tried to intensify relations with Peru. There is no doubt that with things as they are at present the government faces the new year with optimism. During next year the new constitution, together with the political, social and economic changes it provides for, will be implemented.

M-19 GROUP EXTENDS BITTERMAN DEADLINE BY 15 DAYS

PA192217 Caracas Radio Continente Network in Spanish 2150 GMT 19 Feb 81

[Excerpt] The guerrilla group that kidnapped U.S. linguist Chester Bitterman has extended for 15 days the deadline for negotiating his release, according to Bogota radio reports.

The group that kidnapped the linguist has sent a message to the Summer Institute of Linguistics [ILV] noting the decision to extend the deadline so that the group's demand may be complied with.

Part of M-19 Document Published

PA192002 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 1931 GMT 19 Feb 81

[Excerpts] Bogota, 19 Feb (LATIN)--A few hours before the deadline issued for the "execution" of U.S. linguist Chester Allen Bitterman, his kidnappers have reportedly offered to spare his life in exchange for the publication of an extremist document in the Colombian papers.

The paper EL BOGOTANO today published part of the document and noted that it is prepared to publish the rest, but it did not mention the alleged condition imposed by the extremists. According to reports by two radio networks, the document harshly criticizes President Julio Cesar Turbay Ayala's liberal government and rejects any military actions against the guerrilla movements, the exploitation of workers and the amnesty bill being debated in congress. The portion of the document published by EL BOGOTANO contained statements which demonstrate a virtual division within the 19 April Movement [M-19], the most powerful Colombian guerrilla group which 1 year ago occupied the Dominican Embassy in Bogota and held dozens of diplomats hostage for 2 months.

Government (Interior) Minister German Zea Hernandez said that the Colombian intelligence services have confirmed that an M-19 group kidnapped Bitterman. A group that identified itself as the M-19 staff held three newsmen hostage on Saturday in a publicity action aimed at denying authorship of the kidnapping. Hernández also said that "in view of the guerrilla groups' announcement of promoting an escalation of terrorism, all the resources available to the government will be used to neutralize the actions of those who persist in creating a climate of unease."

Defense Minister Gen Luis Carlos Camacho has said he "fully agrees with the government minister" and he noted that "when Congress approves the bill on amnesty for the guerrillas, peace will return to the Colombians."

The two headquarters of the ILV in northern Bogota are under strict military surveillance. Access to the area is restricted and patrols have been intensified in the capital during the past few hours.

In the latest message to his family on Sunday, Bitterman told his wife in a tape recording that he was in good health and that he hoped that "everything will end well."

Searches Carried Out

PA191443 Bogota Radio Sutatenza Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 19 Feb 81

[Text] Bogota--This capital has been partially militarized today in efforts to prevent further attempts against public order. The measures were adopted early Wednesday in view of the terrorist wave that has affected the capital of the republic.

Combined army and police patrols are searching automobiles and individuals, mainly in the northern part of the city where three explosives devices were discovered in the past 48 hours. The official measure will remain in effect until further notice, an armed forces spokesman said.

FEBRERISTAS ASSAIL GOVERNMENT PATRIOTISM

PY192119 Asuncion HOY in Spanish 17 Feb 81 p 12

[Excerpts] The Febrerista Revolutionary Party [PRF] published a document today marking the anniversary of the 17 February 1936 revolution. The document states: "The famous Paraguayan participation in the construction of Itaipu and the current contention among three foreign companies over the construction of Yacyreta again loudly proclaim the freakish nature of the government's patriotism when it deals with business."

The note adds: "Mired in the greediness of its main figures, the government has not been able to prepare a long-term program, but it did succeed in placing the country under the yoke of the multinational companies, with the hope that they will be able to fatten their large accounts in Swiss banks with a few million dollars."

"The people know, however, that the proposal for a civilized coexistence presented by the PRF and the National Accord [Acuerdo Nacional] still prevails as the sole alternative to dictatorship and its main pillars: corruption and repression," the note concludes.

LIBERAL YOUTH PROTEST STUDENT ARREST BY POLICE

PY192050 Asuncion HOY in Spanish 16 Feb 81 p 8

[Text] The youth sector of the Authentic Radical Liberal Party [LRA] has released a communique related to the detention of the student, Teresa Paredes, in the headquarters of the police investigations department.

The document states: "The police, violating clauses of the constitution that guarantee the freedom of expression and information, proceeded to detain our fellow student, Teresa Paredes, on 31 January. The only motive for the detention is that she had picked up pamphlets that had been distributed by our organization on that day."

The communique, which is signed by the coordinator general of the youth sector of the LRA, Alfredo Boccia, adds: "The detention is an attack against the most elemental human rights and it is nothing more than another attempt by the dictatorship to gag the demonstrations of honest and democratic citizens."

The document then states that the immediate release of Teresa Paredes is "demanded" and it requests all its militants to try and gain her freedom.

JOURNALISTS UNION REQUESTS RELEASE OF COLLEAGUE

PY191535 Asuncion HOY in Spanish 18 Feb 81 p 12

[Text] A communique was issued yesterday regarding the situation of our colleague Hernando Sevilla. It reads: "The Paraguayan journalists labor union reports to the public the arrest of its associate Hernando Sevilla, who was working as a journalist in the newspaper HOY. Hernando Sevilla was arrested on 6 February, and he has been held incommunicado at the Asuncion police investigations department since that date. The police, however, have not yet reported the charges presented against him or that any legal proceedings have been ordered in compliance with Article No 59 of the constitution. The Paraguayan Journalists Union, therefore, requests the release of Sevilla and--if any specific charges have been presented against him--that the proper judicial proceedings before the competent courts be started in compliance with the laws. Journalists Union Board, Asuncion, 17 February 1981."

NEW FOREIGN MINISTER TO CONTINUE POLICIES

PY191909 Montevideo Radio El Espectador Network in Spanish 1600 GMT 19 Feb 81

[Excerpt] The new foreign minister in his first contact with the press said that Uruguay has experienced attacks abroad due to lack of understanding but that now the Uruguayan position is being better understood. Estanislao Valdez Otero was installed during a ceremony at Government House today. President Aparicio Mendez wished him well in his new position and also offered outgoing Minister Adolfo Folle Martinez a position of ambassador abroad.

Valdez Otero then met briefly with members of the National Security Council. Just before leaving Government House, the new foreign minister said:

[Begin recording] [Valdez] Naturally, I will continue with the country's foreign policy since there has been no change [words indistinct].

[Question] Who is going to be named under secretary?

[Answer] I still have not thought about it.

[Question] What will be the basic principle of your administration?

[Answer] As I said, I will continue with the country's foreign policy, a policy which is very clear and a tradition [words indistinct].

[Question] What are you going to emphasize?

[Answer] Well, we will have to talk about this later on.

[Question] There is talk about the degree of control needed by the Foreign Ministry to get more efficiency from Uruguayan diplomats aborad. What can you tell us about this?

[Answer] Naturally all administrative services must be controlled, supervised and guided.

[Question] The positions of agriculture and fishing minister and foreign minister are quite different, are they not? How do you feel about this new job?

[Answer] Well, I believe they are different. I was quite worried before I accepted, but after accepting it I am no longer worried. I feel quite content at being part of this process, a process from which I never departed.

[Question] Are you at this time familiar with all the problems of the Foreign Ministry?

[Answer] Naturally, I am not. Regarding the foreign policy, as I said before, it is a very clear policy. It is the independent policy the country has always advocated. We will talk about the other matters in the future.

[Question] Mr Minister, without changing the policies [words indistinct] can or should Uruguay implement a more aggressive foreign policy?

[Answer] I do not know if we can talk about an aggressive foreign policy. The important thing is to have a well-defined policy based on clear principles.

[Question] [Words indistinct] to defend from the attacks experienced by Uruguay abroad?

[Valdez] Uruguay has experienced attacks from abroad because of a lack of understanding, but we hope that this understanding of our country abroad will continue to improve. [end recording]

PRESIDENT RECEIVES CUBAN MISSION; HAILS RELATIONS

FL192028 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 1956 GMT 19 Feb 81

[By Enrique Alvarez Manilla]

[Text] Mexico City, 19 Feb (NOTIMEX)--While many forces are working in the Latin America area toward dissolving and penetrating it, Mexico is making a constant effort to advocate--not only with words but also by example--the possibility of cooperation based on political and intellectual honesty, and this is demonstrated in its relations with Cuba. The president of the nation, Jose Lopez Portillo, asserted this on receiving a Cuban commercial delegation in the library of the Los Pinos official residence. Among other matters, the Cubans informed him about aspects of the signing of a contract for the sale of Cuban sugar to Mexico.

The Mexican president expressed satisfaction with the high degree of cooperation reached with Cuba which opens broad prospects and is worthwhile not only because bilateral relations are concerned but also because it sets an example for Latin America and the world.

Such relations, he said, show the possibilities for attaining cooperation based on the intellectual honesty and political good will which permit specific actions that go beyond the statements Latin Americans frequently like to make, for which we are accused of being rhetorical.

Lopez Portillo said such concrete examples in an area of conflict such as Latin America establish the foundations for what we all desire: an organized and operational peace.

The Mexican president recalled the agreement reached with Venezuela to guarantee the supply and privileged price conditions for oil consumed in Central America, as well as for the creation of funds for development of the countries in that subregion.

The president indicated that Mexico wants and maintains magnificent relations of brotherhood, friendship and peace. Therefore, he said, we are very much honored that they are particularly exemplified with the Latin American country closest to us, which is Cuba.

Cuban Official's Comments

FL192128 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 2004 GMT 19 Feb 81

[By Enrique Alvarez Manilla]

[Text] Mexico City, 19 Feb (NOTIMEX)--Noting that Mexico is an example for Latin American countries, the president of the Cuban State Committee for Economic Cooperation, Hector Rodriguez Llompart, has said that his country has achieved an exchange with Mexico in all areas, the likes of which it had never reached with any other developing country.

The Cuban official made his remarks to Mexican President Jose Lopez Portillo during his visit to the Mexican president at the Los Pinos official residence.

Rodriguez Llompart said that Cuba and Mexico have transcended the limits of mere trade into cooperation in other areas that are important to the two countries' economic development.

Rodriguez Llompart was accomapnied by the director general of the sugar industry's national commission, Everardo Espino. They reported to the president on the signing of a sales contract by which Mexico will purchase 100,000 tons of sugar this year.

The Cuban official explained that sugarcane varieties had been made available to Mexico that are resistant to plagues and have a higher saccharose content to prevent Mexican crops from experiencing the critical conditions that cut down on Cuban sugar production in the past.

He added that Cuba will also make available to Mexico several improved methods of work organization in the sugar mills as well as technology that will enable the sugar industry to function in better conditions and with higher productivity and efficiency.

He also reported that on the basis of the agreement signed with Pemex, the work to schedule oil exploration in Cuba has already begun.

He said that they have received advice from Pemex concerning the oil refining industry in Cuba in the area of production and told of the purchase by the Cuban Government of Mexican liquefied gas.

Rodriguez Llompart asserted that cooperation between Mexico and Cuba is an example for developing countries since our country. He said, has a great economic potential and a very solid and defined future.

DEFENSE SECRETARY SAYS ENTIRE COUNTRY PEACEFUL

FL192104 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 2010 GMT 19 Feb 81

[By Enrique Alvarez Manilla]

[Excerpt] Mexico City 19 Feb (NOTIMEX)--Secretary (minister) of National Defense Felix Galvan Lopez has asserted that tranquillity in this country and its political stability are absolute, according to reports that all is well in the 35 military zones. The equipment acquired by the army for its reorganization is sufficient, he added.

The secretary of national defense explained that as a tribute to the Mexican Army, the commanders of the country's military zones this morning rendered their reports that all is well in the national territory. Everyone is at his work place, it was reported.

Regarding the purchase of military equipment, Galvan Lopez said that no more planes will be acquired during this 6-year term [ending in 1982] and that the equipment to meet reorganization plans is sufficient.

He said that the actions taken, the equipment that is being acquired for the reorganization of units and the changes made in their organization are enough to maintain internal order and defend the nation's sovereignty and integrity.

Furthermore, he asserted that militarism does not exist in Mexico. All of us military men essentially are institutionalists and we have been for decades and to date this has been demonstrated, (?he said).

PRESIDENT MEETS WITH COSTA RICAN VICE PRESIDENT

PA190155 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1200 GMT 18 Feb 81

[Text] The talks between Costa Rican Vice President Alfaro and Mexican President Lopez Portillo have ended. The Mexican president and the Costa Rican vice president met yesterday in Mexico City to discuss, among other subjects, the problems of central America. In particular, the problem of the Salvadoran Guerrillas was discussed. Alfaro arrived in Mexico on Sunday and has held meetings with prominent politicians.

PDC CRITICIZES REPEATED GOVERNMENT FAILURES

PA192207 Panama City LA PRENSA in Spanish 19 Feb 81 p 7A

[Text] Due to a series of attitudes adopted recently by the national government in its conduct of Panama's foreign affairs, the Christian Democratic Party [PDC] has published a communique expressing its position and criticizing the irresponsible manner in which such delicate matters are being handled. The following is the text of the communique:

The PDC censures and criticizes the irresponsible manner in which the government continues to manage our foreign affairs. Three recent events demonstrate this:

1. The president's cancellation of a tour of five countries and the United Nations without giving the public any explanation and to the detriment of our relations with several traditionally friendly countries.

2. The nonparticipation of the National Guard in maneuvers which should have been left to the decision of the Combined Board of the Armed Forces of Panama and the United States for the defense of the Canal, also without a reasonable explanation and to the detriment of our sovereignty and security.

3. The disclosure of important foreign affairs matters through a foreign writer who is a personal friend of the National Guard commander in chief and who was entrusted with the matters in questions but which were hidden from the people, to the detriment of our most basic national dignity.

These facts reveal the implementation of a policy whose objective is not to promote or defend in a responsible manner the interests of the nation in solidarity with the democratic forces of Latin America. Its objective is to make direct or indirect propaganda for the figure of Gen Omar Torrijos among the radical and antidemocratic sectors to prepare for his eventual "return" to the control of the government.

The PDC insistenly demands the exercise of international responsibility with a sense of sovereignty and solidarity. The facts expressed above prove that in order to do this it is necessary to put an end to the present system and to initiate a true democracy with the participation of every Panamanian of good will.

[Signed] PDC, Guillermo A Cochez jr, secretary general

LA REPUBLICA CALLS HAIG MESSAGE 'ACT OF ARROGANCE'

PA182114 Panama City LA REPUBLICA in Spanish 17 Feb 81 p 18

[Griselda Lopez article: "The Usual Arrogance"]

[Text] In plain language, without any rhetoric and without any diplomacy, Alexander Haig has asked Panama, as if it were one of its vassal governments, to end its relations with the brother country of Cuba. With a mentality characteristic of the Monroe Doctrine and with the subjection of Latin America for dozens of years, the U.S. mentality has not changed and it is trying to tell the underdeveloped countries what to be and what to do, disregarding their independence and their right to self-determination. However, Alexander Haig must learn that the response of our government will be in the same firm and dignified manner: "Wrong message," as General Torrijos replied, and "we will respect ideological pluralism," as President Royo said.

But perhaps this request is not that innocent and behind the negative replies of our leaders will come the adoption of repressive measures which will harm the relations that were so friendly in the Jimmy Carter period.

There is no doubt that the reply will not be pleasant for the U.S. administration and some plan is being drafted so Panama will be punished for what the Americans must view as great audacity. U.S. intervention, common in other nations, will undoubtedly stop in Panama. The Torrijos-Carter treaties are in the hands of officials of incomprehension and stupidity. To further block Cuba is the most irrational measure the Americans, who are not opening a path for peace but are doing just the opposite to close it and to increase the arms race, can do.

All these "small American things" must be analyzed in all their scope. They are the omen of other harsher actions. The Reagan administration will be willing to destroy any North American [as published] liberation movement, whatever the price in money, blood and backwardness.

The attitude of our leaders is praiseworthy. This attitude must be the same in the face of any blow dealt to us. Panama must reinforce its presence in the nonaligned movement, which must strengthen itself as the determining power in the balance of forces which sets forth its position and raises its voice in order to avoid the attacks of which we are the target. The government has the upright backing of our people in each of its proud actions.

STUDENTS CALL MEETING AGAINST 'BLACK HAWK IV'

PA191808 Panama City MATUTINO in Spanish 19 Feb 81 pp 1A, 6A

[Communique of the Federation of Panamanian Students issued in Panama City on 18 February]

[Text] As the public knows, the U.S. Army is carrying out maneuvers in the Canal area which were not cleared with or authorized by the Panamanian Government. The interference of the U.S. State Department in Panama's domestic affairs by trying to force changes in our foreign policy has also been denounced as a condemnable act.

The Federation of Panamanian Students [FEP] has charged that these military operations are masking interventionist actions against the Salvadoran and Nicaraguan peoples and have placed in Panamanian territory an alarming number of Phantom planes, war tanks, helicopters and other modern war materiel that will not be returned to the United States.

In view of the seriousness of the real intention behind Operation "Black Hawk IV" Panamanian territory, the FEP issues an urgent call to patriots, labor, women's civic and youth organizations, political parties and personalities, the student movement and all active forces to attend an important meeting to debate the actions that the popular movement must carry out to confront the new aggressions of imperialism against our sovereign and national dignity.

The meeting will be held on 19 February at 1700 in the newmen's headquarters.

The FEP is on the March.
Federal Executive Council of the FEP.
Panama City, 18 February.
"To study and struggle."

CRITICA Opposes Maneuvers

PA200018 Panama City CRITICA in Spanish 19 Feb 81 p 30

[Editorial: "Black Hawk IV"]

[Excerpt] The holding of these military maneuvers in Panama at a time when the Central American area is like a volcano about to erupt, is most imprudent. It seems that the U.S. hawks are emphasizing their aims, but without thinking that times have changed and nations cannot be invaded just like that.

All soldiers in the world cannot defeat a people determined to fight for something they believe in. History is full of these examples. And our countries are not so defenseless that they cannot repel any aggression.

COSTA RICA

U.S.-USSR REGIONAL CONFLICT COULD SPARK WORLD WAR

PA190113 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1730 GMT 18 Feb 81

[Station commentary]

[Text] The U.S. Government is using diplomatic channels to denounce USSR support for the Salvadoran guerrillas. Meanwhile, NATO and the European countries are alarmed by the clear evidence of USSR military intervention in El Salvador. At the same time, rumors of U.S. military intervention in El Salvador in support of the legitimate and constitutional government puts the continent in one of the worst crises in its history: the threat of a world war.

We would like to know why the USSR is interested in Central America and Cuba. Why does it intervene in countries so far from its shores? Why is the USSR provoking the United States? The answer is simple: The USSR wants to be in a position to bargain with the United States. It wants to intervene in Poland, where it is having very serious problems, and in exchange it will not say anything if the United States intervenes in Central America. That in summary is what the USSR is seeking, an excuse to intervene in Poland.

Since what counts in international politics is the world's interests, diplomatic channels will be used to prevent the possibility of a third world war as a result of the Central American conflict. However, as impossible as it might seem, the possibility of Central America being the spark that could start such a war is not out of the question.

Political leaders in Central America should analyze the situation more carefully and the consequences of a military intervention and of the landing of the big powers' troops in Central America (?because) innocent and defenseless people will be caught in the crossfire between the contending powers.

STATUS OF CONTROVERSIAL STATION TO BE STUDIED

PA190029 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1200 GMT 18 Feb 81

[Excerpt] The justice minister has said that the suspension of Radio Noticias del Continente is temporary. The legality of the government's suspension of Radio Noticias del Continente will be studied once the new security minister takes over.

Justice Minister Elizabeth Odio said the arms matter is not clear and problems encountered with the two organizations in charge of investigating that matter will be placed in the hands of the new security minister, who takes office on 1 March.

PUBLIC SECURITY OFFICIALS DISPLEASED WITH CHARGES

PA192343 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1730 GMT 19 Feb 81

[Text] Several public security officials have expressed their displeasure regarding an investigation requested by President Carazo Odio on the participation of Crime Prevention Unit [UPD] personnel in the raid on Radio Noticias del Continente where the station guard was arrested. The president of the republic asked for an investigation of reports that the station guard had been tortured.

Public Security officials claim that there is a medical report at the UPD which says that the only irregularity concerning the situation surrounding the arrested station guard is the beginning of a case of gastritis, and that this precludes any investigation.

Col Allen Vega Rodriguez, UPD director, said that as soon as the investigation of Radio Noticias del Continente ends, he will sue Fournier Facio, the lawyer for Ismael Quesada, the guard at Radio Noticias del Continente installations. In paid advertisements Founier Facio said that Quesada had been tortured and this is emphatically denied by UPD Director Col Allen Vega.

EL SALVADOR

FDR SPOKESMAN: U.S. PREPARING MASSIVE INTERVENTION

PA190158 Paris AFP in Spanish 1914 GMT 18 Feb 81

[Text] Paris, 18 Feb (AFP)--Roberto Armijo, Salvadoran opposition representative in France, warned today that "the Pentagon is preparing troops for a massive intervention" in El Salvador, an action that would make "the regionalization of the conflict inevitable and would threaten world peace."

The Revolutionary Democratic Front [FDR] delegate has told AFP that the European tour by Lawrence Eagleburger, President Ronald Reagan's special envoy is for "the purpose of convincing [governments] that there is Soviet meddling in El Salvador and shows that Washington does not hesitate to use lies to prevent the people from deciding their own future."

The truth is, Armijo stated, "that the U.S. Government is organizing and financing the intervention in El Salvador, against all the aspirations of the Salvadoran people." He added: "It is no secret that in the past few weeks military aid supplied to the junta has increased considerably and that the Pentagon is preparing troops for a massive intervention."

Such an action would make "the regionalization of the conflict inevitable. It would spread to the Caribbean and would threaten world peace."

Armijo appealed to "democratic European people and governments to denounce U.S. intervention in El Salvador."

PDC LEADER AGAINST SENDING OF U.S. TROOPS

PA192313 San Salvador EL DIARIO DE HOY in Spanish 19 Feb 81 pp 5, 22

[Excerpt] Dr Julio Alfredo Samayoa, secretary general of the Christian Democratic Party (PDC), has stated: We do not accept and we would immediately condemn any sending of U.S. troops to El Salvador.

Dr Samayoa has stated that "the arrival of troops from that country or any other country would be an intervention and we would fight it through international organizations. The PDC would be very suspicious of a government that allows foreign troops on our territory considering that no democratic country can allow this type of intervention."

The PDC secretary general said: "Our armed forces are professionally capable of defending our national sovereignty." Samayoa said that if there is an armed invasion by mercenaries from other countries and our national sovereignty is threatened, then we must resort to international organizations. If these organizations decide to send troops to defend us from foreign aggression, that would be another matter."

ARTICLE PRAISES U.S. AMBASSADOR TO HONDURAS

PA192205 San Salvador LA PRENSA GRAFICA in Spanish 10 Feb 81 p 6

[Herminio Portell Vila article: "An Ambassador Who Tells the Truth"]

[Text] It is said that an ambassador is an honorable person who is sent abroad to tell lies. At least that is what he faces in his instructions. However, there are diplomats who do not need such instructions to give false and biased reports.

New then, there are also diplomats who--because of their temperament and in order to serve better their country and the country to which they are accredited--tell the truth. Jack R. Binns, the U.S. ambassador to Tegucigalpa, Honduras, is among these diplomats.

Although Mr. Binns did attend the Foreign Service Institute, he originally went to school at the U.S. Naval Academy in Annapolis where he graduated as an officer of the U.S. Marines. Perhaps for this reason, the language used by Ambassador Binns is direct and without guile.

On 11 January, Ambassador Binns said in Tegucigalpa that "Cuba is inciting and training combatants to change the social, political and economic system of Central America." He then accused the Castro regime of having interfered in Nicaragua through Costa Rica where the ineffable Jose Figueres personally unloaded the planes from communist Cuba which carried arms and ammunition for the Sandinists.

And Mr Binns, on the other side of the border with El Salvador, was well aware of the Castroite intervention in that country which is helping leftist guerrillas. For this reason, he said that Communist Cuba is training and equipping combat forces for intervention in Central America.

Mr Binns' statement could not have been made a month ago when the U.S. leftists were well entrenched in the White House and the U.S. Foreign Service. Binns' statements are then a sign of the times and they indicate that there will be changes in the U.S. policy, attitude and even personnel in inter-American relations.

It is hoped that this will not happen when it is too late to save El Salvador from falling under communist domination.

ARMY DISMANTLES CAMP; GUERRILLAS FLEE INTO JUNGLE

PA190152 San Salvador LA PRENSA GRAFICA in Spanish 18 Feb 81 pp 2, 29

[Excerpts] The armed forces revealed yesterday that it had broken up a subversive camp at La Zambranada Ranch, in Los Conejos, San Marcos Lempa. Reports say some 150 extremists had entrenched themselves, turned the camp into a general headquarters, built defensive positions and mined the area in preparation for an armed forces attack. However, the Armed Forces Information Center [CIFA] troops avoided the mines in the attack.

Guerrilla lookouts in the area warned of the troops' arrival and the extremists withdrew and hid in the forest near the Lempa River in La Paz Department. The extremists avoided a frontal fight, but 10 guerrillas were killed in isolated actions and many others were wounded. The CIFA troops lost two men.

No large amounts of weapons were seized, because the guerrillas hid them or took them along in their retreat.

FMLN ISSUES WAR BULLETIN NO 43 ON 18 FEBRUARY

PA197127 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1200 GMT 19 Feb 81

[Text] The Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front [FMLN] has issued a call to the peoples of the world to create a solid front to stop the direct intervention of the United States in El Salvador.

War bulletin No 43 issued last night by the FMLN general command charged that U.S. President Ronald Reagan and several of his aides are threatening to carry out an open military intervention in El Salvador.

The bulletin also reported that the FMLN guerrillas yesterday maintained barricades on a large section of the highway from San Francisco Gotera to Perquin, Morazan Department. They also cut off telephone and telegraph lines along the highway.

The bulletin added that three army trucks traveling from Meanguera to Perquin were ambushed, inflicting a large number of casualties on the army troops.

According to the FMLN report, an army officer and a national guardsman died instantly when an explosive charge was set off in Valle Alegre, Morazan Department.

FMLN COMMANDER REPORTS ACTIONS ON EASTERN FRONT

PA200008 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 1200 GMT 19 Feb 81

[Interview of Commander Rabin Armijo of the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front, who is at the southeastern part of the Francisco Sanchez eastern front; questions are relayed to Commander Rabin Armijo by either telephone or two-way radio communications; date not given--recorded]

[Excerpts] [Question] Commander Rabin Armijo, several weeks after the beginning of our people's insurrection and general offensive against the dictatorship, we would like you to give us a general picture of the struggle our people are waging. Over.

[Answer] The results have been positive, internationally as well as domestically. It has been recognized that the Salvadoran people are up in arms and this has initiated a vast solidarity movement in the [word indistinct] as well as in the most distant parts of the world.

The enemy has been hit and put on the defensive and with out daily actions we have proven that there is a puppet government which does not govern the people.

The Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front [FMLN] military forces continue intact. We have become larger and at the present time we are getting ready for the decisive battles. Over.

[Question] Understood, commander. We read you with some distortion but we can understand you perfectly well. Commander Rabin Armijo, we would like you to inform Radio Venceremos listeners of the actions of our FMLN forces in the southeastern area of the Francisco Sanchez front. Commander Armijo, you may begin for Radio Venceremos.

[Answer] We have carried out a number of military actions such as seizing the town of San Marcos [wor indistinct], controlling the road along the coastline, sabotaging the election plant at El Delirio, taking over the town of Conchagua, harassing the enemy's military positions near La Union, sabotaging the railroad, which is an important means of economic and military communication for the enemy, etc. Our reply to the enemy's [word indistinct] has been daily combat. Over.

[Question] Commander Armijo, Big Sarge Duarte has charged that hundreds of Sandinists have landed somewhere near El Cuco. What do you have to say about this? Over.

[Answer] The Christian Democratic regime is trying in every way to implicate other governments in our struggle. We all know that the only foreigners intervening in this conflict are the U.S. military advisers, the Honduran Army and the [words indistinct]. The so-called invaders are the FMLN forces which recently killed 8 of our enemies and recovered ten rifles and one machinegun.

FMLN MEMBER ON OBJECTIVES AT NONALIGNED CONFERENCE

FL200207 Havana Domestic Television Service in Spanish 0100 GMT 20 Feb 81

[Interview by unidentified Havana TV correspondent with Ruben Zamora, representative of El Salvador's "revolutionary and democratic forces" during the nonlaigned foreign ministers conference in New Delhi; date not given--recorded]

[Text] [Question] Zamora, we would like to know the reasons for your presence here at the New Delhi conference.

[Answer] The reasons for our presence as delegates of the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front and the Revolutionary Democratic Front of El Salvador at this converence are basically two: first, to present our position to the foreign ministers meeting here, that of nonalignment in the international arena and acceptance of the basic principles underlying a policy of peace, nonaggression and respect for the independence of all; second, to make public and to warn the international community, especially the nonaligned countries, about the policy of aggression that the U.S. Government is pursuing against our people by means of massive military aid to the Christian Democratic military junta to massacre our people. The U.S. position is endangering not only the peace of the Salvadoran people but also the peace of the whole Central American Region, inasmuch as it paves the way for possible massive intervention by the United States. This would be very negative not only for our country but also for the consolidation of the Nicaraguan revolution, Belize's independence process, the right of the Panamanian people to recover sovereignty over the Panama Canal, the Cuban revolution, the revolution of Grenada. In a word, we want to warn the foreign ministers about this U.S. policy of aggression against our people which endangers peace in the region. We also want to ask them to denounce this aggression against our sovereignty and against the legitimate right of our people to carry out their own revolution.

PDC PROTESTS NICARAGUAN RIGHTS COMMISSION CLOSURE

PA191533 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1826 GMT 18 Feb 81

[By Ricardo Medina]

[Text] San Salvador, 18 Feb (ACAN-EFE)--The Salvadoran Christian Democratic Party (PDC) which is in power published a document today condemning the raid and the closing of the human rights commission headquarters in Nicaragua.

The document accuses the Sandinist Army of breaking into the human rights commission headquarters and of taking away electric appliances, machines and other equipment, plus all the documents and files with proof of human rights violations in Nicaragua.

PDC says that this action of the Nicaraguan Government confirms that the complaints and accusations presented by the commission are true. The excuses given in order to carry out this action are farfetched, the PDC added.

The PDC document includes some cases showing that the Nicaraguan human rights commission, whose president is the vice president of the Nicaraguan Social Christian Party, opposed and criticized the Somozist dictatorship.

Two members of the Salvadoran revolutionary government junta, formed by three civilians and one member of the military, are members of the Salvadoran PDC. Jose Napoleon Duarte, president of the junta is also president of the PDC.

However, despite the PDC's defense of the Nicaraguan human rights commission, some members of the Salvadoran junat have strongly criticized the Salvadoran Human Rights Commission on many occasions.

"The last communique issued by the Salvadoran Human Rights Commission was simply a call for a national insurrection. The people ought to have institutions to prevent the abuse of power, but the members of those institutions must be elected by the people, but the people did not elect the persons who are in charge of the commission here," a top PDC leader said. Two days after these statements, the Salvadoran Human Rights Commission, whose telephone line had been cut off several days earlier publicly denounced the arrest of Victor Medrano, the commission's administrator, supposedly by members of the state security forces.

Afterwards, the human rights commission offices were raided and destroyed and the members of the commission went into hiding. They are having financial problems, since the administrator, whose whereabouts is still not known, is the only person authorized to withdraw money from banks on behalf of the commission.

In addition, two members of the Salvadoran Human Rights Commission, Maria Magadalena Henriquez and Ramon Balladares were slain in October and November 1980, respectively, and there have been many attempts and threats against the commission here in recent months.

GUATEMALA

MINISTER DISCUSSES TALKS WITH COLOMBIA, HONDURAS

PA192309 Guatemala City Radio-Television Guatemala in Spanish 0400 GMT 19 Feb 81

[Recorded passages enclosed in quotation marks]

[Text] Colombian Foreign Minister Diego Uribe Vargas returned to Bogota this morning after a 3-day official visit to Guatemala. [as heard] The content of the so-called Declaration of Tikal signed by the foreign ministers of Guatemala, Colombia and Honduras was announced by Guatemalan Foreign Minister Rafael Castillo Valdez: "This is a reiteration of the adherence to the basic principles of international law especially regarding nonintervention, self-determination of the peoples, territorial integrity, the peaceful solution of international conflicts and the inviolability of treaties."

Castillo Valdez said that the document established the Latin American repudiation to any kind of intervention: "It is an emphatic and clear expression of the repudiation that the Latin Americans have toward any kind of intervention in Central America, no matter what form it takes, because it is our experience that any kind of intervention has always affected the sovereignty and development of our nations."

Castillo Valdez added that the document states that those who signed it hope that the conflict over the Guatemalan territory of Belize will continue to be negotiated through talks: "We also discussed the conflict over the Belizean territory, and the Colombian and Honduran foreign ministers said that they hope that the dialogue between Guatemala and the UK will continue."

In conclusion, Castillo Valdez reported that the Colombian foreign minister invited his Guatemalan and Honduran counterparts to visit his country and noted that he will also extend this invitation to the other foreign ministers on the isthmus: "In conclusion, the Colombian foreign minister was very kind in inviting the Honduran and Guatemalan foreign ministers to visit his nation. He said that this invitation will also be extended to his counterparts in El Salvador and Costa Rica so that we can meet at San Andres Island at an upcoming date."

COOPERATION AGREEMENT SIGNED WITH COLOMBIA

PA190148 Guatemala City Domestic Service in Spanish 1200 GMT 18 Feb 81

[Text] Diego Uribe Vargas and Rafael Castillo Valdez, foreign ministers of Colombia and Guatemala, respectively, have signed a scientific and technical cooperation agreement to improve communications between the two countries to develop important projects and programs of mutual benefit.

MINISTER COMMENTS ON EMBASSY SEIZURE IN MEXICO

PA192145 Guatemala City Radio-Television Guatemala in Spanish 0400 GMT 19 Feb 81

[Excerpts] This afternoon, Guatemalan Foreign Minister Rafael Castillo Valdez commented on the occupation of our country's embassy in Mexico City.

Castillo Valdez said that he hopes that this kind of incident will not happen again anywherein the world:

[Begin recording] The incident is completely closed. We contacted the Mexican Government and we have nothing to add on this. We hope that this kind of incident will not happen in Mexico, Guatemala or anywhere in the world. [end recording]

He said that it is up to Guatemalan Ambassador Jorge Palmieri to request security reinforcements for the embassy:

[Begin recording] [Castillo Valdez] This is left to the discretion of our ambassador and the personnel at the embassy in Mexico.

[Question] Will you recall our ambassador to get a report on this incident?

[Answer] I don't think this will be necessary because I already called him and he called me and everything is perfectly normal. [end recording]

In conclusion, the foreign minister said that the embassy occupiers were armed:

[Begin recording] The report that we received from some of the eyewitnesses revealed that these individuals were armed in some way. [end recording]

POLICE PATROL ATTACKED IN FRONT OF U.S. EMBASSY

PA191818 Guatemala City Radio-Television Guatemala in Spanish 0400 GMT 19 Feb 81

[Text] Unidentified individuals drove by and attacked a national police patrol on Reforma Avenue and 7th Street in Zone 9 in front of the U.S. Embassy. The assailants were unable to hit the vehicle. The policemen fired back and followed their attackers but could not catch them.

AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL REPORT DESCRIBED AS 'BIASED'

PA192204 Guatemala City Domestic Service in Spanish 1230 GMT 19 Feb 81

[Text] The Public Relations Office of the Presidency has described a recent amnesty international publication as biased, ridiculous and childish. This publication reported with every awkwardness, insecurity and irresponsibility possible that our government palace gives out instructions to direct violence in Guatemala.

Carlos Toledo Vielman, secretary of public relations of the Presidency, described this report as clearly speculative and irresponsible, reflecting the low category of the self-styled Amnesty International.

He said that Amnesty International has been trying to discredit the Guatemalan Government and people for many years with its false news and biased statements. Luckily, he added, the Guatemalans, the local government and the peoples and governments of the world are aware of the [word indistinct] that Amnesty International follows.

Amnesty International, he noted, has become the spokesman of international communism and defender of [words indistinct] in order to promote violence and other evils that affect the citizens and saying that they are acts of misgovernment.

The government spokesman reiterated that he did not give much credit to the biased lies of Amnesty International, describing them as ridiculous and as threats to the interests of our people and the peoples of Latin America and other parts of the world.

Amnesty International is making charges without recalling that a few months ago, at the beginning of the government of General Lucas Garcia, a fact-finding delegation from Amnesty International visited Guatemala. This delegation was officially received and told about the country's situation and it could not prove what it subsequently affirmed. Violence in the world also affects us because it is a result of various factors which unfortunately include Guatemala too, he concluded.

DEPUTIES AIR VIEWS ON EXPECTED MEETING WITH REAGAN

PA182312 Guatemala City Radio Nuevo Mundo in Spanish 1200 GMT 18 Feb 81

[Text] Deputy Oscar Henriquez Guerra of the People's Participation Front has said that the Central American Presidents' meeting with Mr Ronald Reagan will be politically important. He noted that if the meeting is held in an eminently political atmosphere and especially if it deals with economic development programs for Central America, the meeting will perforce be positive and beneficial for these peoples.

The dialogue is opportune at this critical time for Central America. This is necessary. Many concepts can be clarified because for various reasons the Central American presidents have not met for many years. However, there being a fundamental objective and a leader that allows for dialogue and with a positive backing from President Reagan, this may be positive.

If the dialogue is sectarian and imperious and if Reagan meets with the heads of state of the isthmus with the idea of imposing a development model based on U.S. characteristics, it would be negative.

Our Central American countries cannot go on living with imported models that do not allow them to achieve their own development on the basis of their own characterists and structure. This must be the focal point of the agenda in order for the meeting to be beneficial. Guatemala expects assistance with respect and not intervention.

Deputy Alfredo Lopez Estrada of the National Liberation Movement bloc has said that the meeting that has been announced between the Central American presidents and Reagan may be beneficial if it is based on respect for the Central American heads of state. He noted that Central America's problems, such as the radicalization of Nicaragua, the undeclared civil war in El Salvador and many other problems common to the area, are keeping the U.S. Government concerned over the type of assistance to be provided to solve this troubled situation.

Lopez said this difficult situation has prompted the problems to be discussed at higher levels to find adequate solutions. He said there was such an understanding previously between the governments and the Central American nations that the Central American Common Market operated wonderfully and Central America's economic development was praiseworthy and admirable.

I think this meeting will be a great step in achieving the goals and development of these countries. It has been said on more than one occasion that Guatemala does not seek assistance but respect and a fitting place in the concert of free, independent and sovereign nations, Lopez said.

CONGRESSMAN WILLING TO APPROVE WAR IF CALLED ON

PA172326 Guatemala City Radio Nuevo Mundo in Spanish 1200 GMT 17 Feb 81

[Text] A deputy of the Blue and White congressional bloc says that if they are asked to approve a declaration of war over Belize, they will be ready to reply in the affirmative.

Rene Urrea Lopez of the Blue and White bloc said any move toward a warlike confrontation to solve the problem of Belize would have to be consulted with congress, which must approve and issue a declaration of war.

Urrea Lopez said that as a deputy, as an army officer and as a citizen he is aware of the peaceful struggle Guatemala has been waging for many years to recover the territory of Belize and that, within this context, the deputies would be the first to respond to any appeal made to them to declare war.

BROAD FRONT MEMBERS TO HONOR ELECTION AGREEMENT

PA162016 Guatemala City Radio-Television Guatemala in Spanish 0400 GMT 16 Feb 81

[Text] Almost all the political parties have tacitly agreed on a recess before fully entering into the pre-electoral campaign. The campaigning will take place after the traditional Easter week celebrations, according to local political sources.

Leaders of the Broad Front said that talks between leaders of the Democratic Institutional Party, PID, the Revolutionary Party, PR, the Authentic Nationalist Central, CAN, and possibly other parties, will not take place until next month. The talks are aimed at organizing a great democratic front which could be made up of five or six political organizations.

The unity agreement of the Broad Front, which is primarily made up of the PID and the CAN, will remain in effect until the president of the congress is elected, after which the future of each individual organization will be determined.

Local political sources today noted the existence of that pact between the Broad Front parties. Under the pact, it would now be the PID's turn to fill the presidency of the Legislative Assembly for the coming period.

Deputy Oscar Vega Jimenez said that this pact will be respected and that the PID will indeed fill the presidency in the coming period:

[Begin recording] The pact exists, and so does the Broad Front, just as it was originally established. We are quite certain that this agreement will be honored, with the PID occupying the presidency of the congress for the last year. It was agreed that the PR would have 2 years, and the PID, 2 years.

In this regard, I believe that there is no doubt and the presidency of the legislature for the next period will be filled by a member of the PID. [end recording]

The deputy also indicated that there may be some changes within the PR, because some deputies from that party have withdrawn from the party ranks and formed a separate bloc called the Blue and White.

[Begin recording] Yes, within the PR there are some dissidents calling themselves the Blue and White, but on several occasions they have said that they have withdrawn only from the group of PR deputies, but that they remain members of the Broad Front. Therefore, I believe there will be no problem regarding the presidency of the congress of the republic. [end recording]

HONDURAS

FOREIGN MINISTERS DISCUSS COLOMBIAN BORDER RIGHTS

PA191450 Bogota Radio Sutatenza Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 19 Feb 81

[Text] Bogota--The foreign ministers of Colombia, Honduras and Guatemala yesterday in Tegucigalpa revised the Barcenas-Urrutia-Thompson treaties which deal with Colombian rights over the San Andres and Providence Archipelagos and the Quitasueno, Serrano and Roncador keys.

Ministers Diego Uribe Vargas, Cesar Elvir Sierra and Rafael Castillo Valdez, respectively, studied the states of the relations between Colombia and Nicaragua concerning the border differences which developed after the Central American country claimed sovereignty over our country's territorial possessions.

Likewise, during a dialogue held in Tegucigalpa, where they concluded a 4-day visit today, [as heard] the foreign ministers agreed to demonstrate their intent to not intervene in the development of the Central American political situation, where current fratricidal wars are promoting chaos and violence.

GOVERNMENT CHARGES NEW SANDINIST INCURSION

PA192122 Tegucigalpa La Voz de Honduras in Spanish 1145 GMT 19 Feb 81

["Text" of Foreign Ministry announcement; dated 18 February]

[Text] In a note addressed to the Honduran Foreign Ministry, the general chief of staff reported that at 1000 on 17 February elements of the Sandinist National Liberation Front opened fire against the Guasaole military post which the 11th Infantry Battalion maintains in the sectors of San Benito and Palo Verde, on the Nicaraguan border.

The incidents continued at 1500 and lasted until 1840 with individual weapons and mortar fire.

The Honduran forces repelled the attack and so far, there have been no reports of casualties or damage.

The 11th Infantry Battalion headquarters is in possession of mortar shrapnel as evidence of the military action.

The post commander has already contacted the military commander of the city of Leon in Nicaragua to order a cease-fire and an investigation of the military action against the Honduran Armed Forces.

The Foreign Ministry wishes to inform the Honduran people of the military incident on the Honduran-Nicaraguan border and that it is filing a protest of the attack before the Nicaraguan Government and the OAS Permanent Council.

POLICE PROTECTING MINISTRIES; REASON UNKNOWN

PA192136 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1643 GMT 19 Feb 81

[Text] Tegucigalpa, 19 Feb (ACAN-EFE)--The buildings of several Honduran Government secretariats in Tegucigalpa are being heavily guarded by the police.

The authorities have not disclosed why policemen are carrying communications equipment and rifles around at the Secretariats of Finance and Public Credit, Economy and Commerce, Public Education, Public Health, and Labor and Social Welfare.

Nevertheless, several unions are organizing activities connected to the work going on in those government buildings, which officials fear may be forcefully occupied by demonstrators, as has occurred on other occasions.

At present, the Teachers Unity Front is pressuring the government to accredit 17 high schools in 11 departments throughout the country, and they are blaming Valentin Mendoza, secretary of state for finance and public credit, for the lack of government action.

Likewise, public health employees have been demanding that the government fulfill the economic offers it made last year.

At the same time, a consumers association has promoted marches with empty pots and pans to protest the financial authorities' decision to raise the prices of fuel and staples.

ARMS, AMMUNITION CONFISCATED AT OMOA PORT

PA192139 Tegucigalpa La Voz de Honduras in Spanish 1145 GMT 19 Feb 81

[Text] The daily LA TRIBUNA today reports the confiscaiton of arms at Omoa, according to information supplied by the northwestern command of the public security forces.

Commander Maj Lazaro Avila announced having received information from the Puerto Cortes military post concerning an arms shipment confiscated last Friday at the mouth of the Notagua River.

Peasant residents nearby alerted the Puerto Cortes post to the continuing arrival of schooners piloted by unknown elements in an operation described as suspicious. Combined army and police patrols were dispatched Friday night to the area and captured several persons, a few vessels and a considerable amount of arms and ammunition.

A police source, who asked not to be identified, revealed that Major Avila was already informed of the operation in a detailed report submitted to him from Puerto Cortes. The source refused to reveal the number of schooners captured or the amount and type of arms confiscated.

Meanwhile, the northwest command has banned the use and ordered the confiscation of CB radios in the Departments of Copan and Cortes, following reports received by the police that there was a clandestine communications network with its headquarters located in Tegucigalpa and having connections abroad. The ban extends to radios operating on the 11-meter band in order to avoid confusion and be able to detect those operating illegally in the area.

BRIEFS

FUEL PRICE INCREASE--Deputy Economy Minister Orlando Funes has announced that as of today, the price of petroleum byproducts has been increased. The price of gasoline went up 33 cents, diesel went up 13 cents and bunker oil went up 25 cents. [Tegucigalpa Radio America in Spanish 1145 GMT 5 Feb 81 PA]

NICARAGUA

BORGE ADDRESSES RALLY ON SANDINO'S IDEOLOGY

PA191949 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 0300 GMT 19 Feb 81

[Text] Tomas Borge Martinez, commander of the revolution and interior minister, delivered a lengthy speech on the history of the Sandinist National Liberation Front before more than 5,000 people in the bullring this afternoon on the occasion of the General of Free Men Augusto Cesar Sandino, father of the anti-imperialist people's revolution, ideological campaign. The foreigners in Nicaragua are the ones who have sold out; the traitors, the ones who try to destabilize the revolutionary process such as liar Jose Esteban Gonzalez who discredits our revolution before other countries of the world, Tomas Borge said.

The Sandinist leader said that regardless of where he was born, a revolutionary cannot be described as a foreigner because Sandino is in the struggle of all the peoples who seek social justice, such as the Salvadoran people who struggle to the death against their oppressors to find their freedom.

Here is part of the speech by Tomas Borge this afternoon:

[Begin recording] Who are the real foreigners in our land? Regardless of where they were born, the revolutionaries are Nicaraguan. [applause] The foreigners are others. The foreigners are those who have come here to destabilize the revolution. The provocateurs are the foreigners. The enemies of our people are the foreigners. When I say the enemies of our people I am not only referring to those who have been born in other countries but also those born in Nicaragua. Can that individual who was speaking against Nicaragua in the Vatican be considered a Nicaraguan? [shouts of "no" from audience] Can Victor Manuel Tirado Lopez feel like a Nicaraguan? [shouts of "yes" from audience] A person born in Mexico can be a Nicaraguan just as Farabundo Marti is Nicaraguan, regardless of his being born in El Salvador. [applause, slogans] But those who have a nostalgia for the past, those who breathe through the noses of the transnational companies, those who have sold themselves like cheap prostitutes to imperialism, they do not deserve to be Nicaraguans. [applause]

Sandino was not only a Nicaraguan, he was also a Latin American. And when our brothers in Cuba triumphed, Augusto Cesar Sandino was also present there. Augusto Cesar Sandino is also present in the struggles of the Chilean people. Augusto Cesar Sandino is also present in the struggle for Paraguay. Augusto Cesar Sandino is also present in the struggle of the Haitian people, and in El Salvador, in Guatemala and in the most remote corner of the world where there is a struggle for justice and against imperialism, Augusto Cesar Sandino is also present. [end recording]

If the U.S. Government respects us, we will respect it. We will never permit it to disrespect us. We are determined to fight for peace by preparing for war. That is why we are organizaing the Sandinist People's Militias and the volunteer police. Currently, the main task of the people is the defense of the fatherland. That is why everyone should join the Sandinist People's Militias. This was stated by Tomas Borge at the bullring this afternoon.

Commander Borge Martinez reiterated that there will soon be two types of citizens in Nicaragua: Those who will be part of the Sandinist People's Militias and those who will not. He said that the revolution will use violence at the necessary moment against counterrevolutionary violence as a historic principle.

The Sandinist leader added that if the United States takes away the wheat for Nicaragua, our vanguard will launch this cry to the world: Bread for Nicaragua!

Further Remarks

PA191950 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1200 GMT 19 Feb 81

[Text] The United States has said it will teach a lesson to the Sandinists if they continue to allow their territory to be used for alleged arms trafficking, but we say to them that we don't need any lessons because we have already learned from Sandino when he said: The sovereignty of a people is not discussed, it is defended with weapons in hand. Tomas Borge Martinez, commander of the revolution and interior minister, said this yesterday in the bullring on the occasion of the General of Free Men Augusto Cesar Sandino, father of the anti-imperialist people's revolution, ideological campaign.

The Sandinist leader said that the enemies can take note of the lesson we gave on 19 July when we stopped being children and became adults, the architects of our destiny.

If we are condemned because we are anti-imperialist and internationalist, we will tell the enemies of the revolution what we have learned from the history of Sandino and Carlos Fonseca. We will continue to maintain solidarity with the struggle of the Salvadoran people to the final consequences. The fascist sectors of the U.S. Government say that Nicaragua assists in providing weapons to the Salvadoran guerrillas. We tell them that the combatants of that brother country buy weapons on the U.S. black market, Commmander Borge Martinez stressed.

Here is part of yesterday's speech by Tomas Borge Martinez:

[Begin recording] This morning--and I had not planned to refer to this--we read a dispatch from the United States that said among other things that due to our alleged participation in the internal affairs of El Salvador, that due to our ideological positions and our friendship with the Soviet Union and Cuba, the U.S. reactionary circles have recommended that the Sandinists be taught a lesson. [Hooting, chanting of slogans by audience] The dispatch cited an article from a U.S. newspaper called the New York TIMES [boos from audience] which said that it is evident from the information they have received that the Sandinist revolution in Nicaragua has lost the support of the people [boos, chanting of slogans] and that they were waiting for the last word of the COSEP [Higher Council of Private Enterprise] [boos from audience] to completely end all aid or economic cooperation with Nicaragua. [chanting of slogans]

I said that I did not want to refer to what that newspaper said but I have done so because when we arrived here we saw the enthusiasm of the workers, the happiness of the people, the smiles of the people [applause], a people who laugh, sing and dance, [applause] a people who did not lose their spirit and passion in the most difficult moments of the war, [applause] a people who will continue to sing and dance, who will continue to be happy and joyful, regardless of what may come. [lengthy applause, slogans]

We ask ourselves, what lessons are they going to teach us? What do they mean by that? Do they think that they are going to take away wheat? [boos] Do they plan to arm the (?guardsmen) who are on the other side of the border? [chanting of slogans] Or are they planning to wield all kinds of economic pressures to destabilize the country and place the COSEP in power? [shouts of "no"] We don't need to learn lessons. We know them by heart. Sandino said: The liberty and sovereignty of a people are not discussed but are defended with weapons in hand. We have learned this lesson which we will never forget. [end recording]

OFFICIAL ON U.S. 'MALEVOLENCE' TOWARD NICARAGUA

PA182329 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1200 GMT 18 Feb 81

[Statement by Commander of the Revolution Victor Tirado Lopez, member of the Sandinist Front National Secretariat, at the opening of the ideological meeting on "Sandino, general of free men and father of the anti-imperialist revolution"; place and date not given--recorded]

[Excerpts] Moreover, legions of U.S. diplomats are touring the world in an attempt to convince countries that are friendly to Nicaragua to cut off their aid. A similar effort is being made at certain international financial organizations. What is the aim? To put more obstacles in the way of Nicaragua's economic recovery, to besiege Nicaragua economically, to cause economic disorder and create chaos and discontent, which would be exploited by the reactionary forces in this country--the rightist parties, labor unions and business organizations--and by their spokesmen in the media.

In this framework, they feel they could move on to the armed offensive, using the murderous guardsmen living on the borders of our country, and other foolhardly individuals inside Nicaragua.

To this same end, a great propaganda campaign has been launched to discredit Nicaragua abroad. The campaign has two main aspects: to accuse us, without proof, of sending weapons to El Salvador and to charge us with holding (?6,000) political prisoners, 800 missing persons, in general, to say that things have not changed, that as far as human rights are concerned everything is the same as it was under Somoza.

If they take loans away from us we will have to look for them elsewhere. If they withhold wheat from us, we will have to get it from other friendly countries. [Words indistinct] acting in this regard. I do not wish to be indiscreet, but we will solve this wheat problem despite the U.S. malevolence. We are also going to solve all the other problems, most of them by turning to international solidarity.

Allow me to digress to the subject of human rights: First of all, Nicaragua has never violated human rights. Its Sandinist revolutionary government, the Sandinist Front, has not violated human rights at any time. On the contrary, the human rights of our country have been violated.

WITHHOLDING OF U.S. WHEAT LOAN ASSAILED

PA200336 Managua International Service in Spanish 0030 GMT 20 Feb 81

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] For those who still had some doubts about the real intentions of some sectors of the Reagan administration about imposing a hard-line policy aimed at harming relations between our country and the United States, the New York TIMES published on Wednesday, 11 February, a report that the paper attributes to the U.S. State Department. According to the New York TIMES, the Agency for International Development, an institution through which U.S. foreign aid is channeled, has noted that the contract for the financing of U.S. wheat will not be signed as long as it is not approved at political levels.

As everybody knows, during the Carter administration, in addition to the wheat sale contracts, the United States approved humanitarian aid in the form of food items as well as financial aid for $75 million, $60 million of which has already been delivered. The remaining $15 million has been withheld under the pretext that a study is being conducted on how the first $60 million has been used. According to reports, that aid was to reinforce the private sector's activities in our country.

The New York TIMES points out that U.S. intelligence has evidence of Nicaraguan intervention in the Salvadoran conflict and that a law approved by the U.S. Congress during he James Carter administration establishes that the aid to Nicaragua is to be suspended if the U.S. President can verify that Nicaragua is aiding revolutionary movements in the region. Our people wonder: Has President Reagan confirmed that our country is aiding the Salvadoran revolutionary movement? When did he do so? How did he do it? Why doesn't he show the world the evidence, since so much is said about verifications? Let them certify that our government is really meddling in the internal affairs of the Salvadoran people. It is obvious that it is impossible to prove any of this. It is impossible because there has never been any Nicaraguan meddling in the revolutionary movement of the sister nation.

The fact is that the most backward sectors of the Reagan administration, who don't hesitate to get the U.S. President involved, cannot tolerate the idea of the U.S. people being in solidarity with the cause of our revolutionary process, which aspires only to the general well-being of our popular majority.

While the New York TIMES reports that the wheat sale to our country has been suspended, while charges are being made, and while various foreign relations commissions of the Reagan administration are having differences among themselves about what attitude to adopt toward our country since there is no evidence to back the charges being made, here in Managua In. .rior Commerce Minister Dionisio Marenco has charged that the United States has withheld the loan that was to be used to finance the purchase of wheat in that market.

The amount of the loan being withheld amounts to $9.6 million and this directly affects our people's bread consumption, since it was thanks to this financing that last year we were able to buy wheat to solve the bread requirements of our people. Marenco noted that this is one of the economic-pressure measures that the U.S. Government is applying against the Nicaraguan revolution. Marenco added that the International Reconstruction Fund Ministry is holding talks with U.S. Embassy officials in our country for a renegotiation of the loan.

The interior commerce minister said: As everybody knows, our government buys 5,000 tons of wheat fromthe United States every month at a cost of $1 million. The purchases are financed with funds from the Agency for International Development, which has been told that it cannot continue financing this until there is political approval. This represents a serious problem for us because if the U.S. measure is not reviewed in the near future, we will have a critical bread-supply problem, Marenco concluded.

PRIEST CHARGES U.S. STARTING ECONOMIC BLOCKADE

PA182302 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1200 GMT 17 Feb 81

[Interview with Father Francisco Oliva; not further identified; place and date not given--live or recorded]

[Excerpts] [Question] Father, the United States has denied loans to Nicaragua to buy wheat and our people could be facing a bread shortage. We also have accusations being made abroad by one Jose Esteban Gonzalez against our country and spreading libel. We would like to hear your opinion on the matter.

[Answer] As a Christian priest committed to the revolution, I can see that Nicaragua is going through an interesting stage. Imperialism cannot, as it did several years ago, send in its Marines, so it is trying to make us submit through hunger and an economic blockade, preventing us from buying wheat and similar items.

This is a great struggle for imperialism, which not only does not want the Nicaraguan example to be repeated in El Salvador, but does not even want Nicaragua to continue to exist.

All this it does from abroad, but as you can see, it also does it with the help and support of persons from within who feel that their material interests are being infringed upon and they are having to give up their privileged positions, and therefore they are opposing all this.

It is in this context that I place the attitude of Jose Esteban Gonzalez and similar individuals.

[Question] What is your opinion of Jose Esteban Gonzalez?

[Answer] I do not know him personally, but from what I read in the local papers, hear on the radio, read in the international news and the clippings which I receive from abroad--which speak very badly of Nicaragua and the source is always the same, for Jose Esteban Gonzalez visited Italy, Spain and other countries--I can see the activity of this man and I believe that he is doing great harm to the fatherland and serving other interests, which are not the interests of the Nicaraguan people but those of a Nicaraguan minority, especially imperialism which finds in him support for its attitude.

[Question] Father Oliva, what do you believe should be the position of Christians regarding this situation?

[Answer] The Nicaraguan Christians, the majority of the Nicaraguan people who participated in the insurrection, must unite in the construction of this revolution.

'PEOPLE OF UNITED STATES' DISTINCT FROM 'YANKEES'

PA182325 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1800 GMT 17 Feb 81

[Station commentary]

[Text] Our country's antipeople and antinational minorities, who see in the majority of the Nicaraguan people the rabble they despise--since they consider this rabble only for exploitation purposes and do not consider them to be good enough to rub elbows with the native princes--also repudiate the other peoples of the earth.

In the opinion of this minority of turncoats and traitors, who remain on their knees before the interests of their imperialist masters--masters who have helped the Somoza dictatorship machinegun us and destroy our homes--the U.S. people, who condemn warlike threats and Washington's economic aggression against their Nicaraguan brothers, do not deserve their consideration either.

We cannot explain otherwise how these gentlemen, who say they are Nicaraguans, could become the venal servants of a government which, in addition to attacking Nicaragua, has been eloquently repudiated by the U.S. people themselves in the biggest case of absenteeism in the annals of U.S. electoral history.

However, when something that will allow them to gain credit in the eyes of U.S. imperialism is being done, these anti-Sandinist and antipatriotic minorities show no scruples and make shameless efforts to place the people of the United States at odds with the people of Sandino, the interests of the Nicaraguan fatherland and the people of Nicaragua.

With this in mind, they try to identify Yankee imperialism--the Yankee enemy of mankind--with the authentic heirs of the tradition of struggle for liberty and the founders of that great nation: the U.S. people.

But unfortunately for these swamp geese, as the general of free men would call them, the U.S. people are maturing, as was proven by the failure in Vietnam and more recently with their fraternal presence at the first international meeting of solidarity with Nicaragua entitled "El Salvador Will Triumph."

As for continuing to deceive the Nicaraguan people, it is too late. The Nicaraguan people already can distinguish between their brothers and their enemies because they have learned through experience.

Nicaraguan people distinguish very well between the Yankee who is the enemy of mankind and the people of the United States. From the former, we received filibusters, humiliation, bullets and hunger, while from the U.S. people we have received the fraternal solidarity of brothers as well as their moral and material help.

At this precise moment, when the aggression of the Yankee that is the enemy of mankind becomes apparent at the economic levels and entails the sale--not the gift--of wheat for the bread of the people of Nicaragua, the voices of millions of Americans are raised in protest to condemn their government, against its threats of intervention, against its aggression and against the murky plans of the most aggressive sectors of the U.S. Government.

The people of Nicaragua know that these voices are the voices of the U.S. people, their Yankee brothers, who join the chorus of millions of people united in the struggle against imperialism, against the Yankee that is the enemy of mankind.

EMBASSY STATEMENT DENIES ARMS SMUGGLING

LD201032 Hamburg DPA in German 0937 GMT 20 Feb 81

[Text] Bonn, 20 Feb (DPA)--The Nicaraguan Government has confirmed that it will not interfere in the internal affairs of El Salvador. In a statement published by the Nicaraguan Embassy in Bonn today the government voices its concern at accusations that weapons from the USSR and other countries are being smuggled in to El Salvador for the guerrillas via Nicaragua.

Without referring directly to alleged U.S. intelligence reports to this effect, which are currently the subject of consultations between Washington and several of its European allies, the Nicaraguan Government states: "These accusations are made at a time when the flow of weapons from the U.S. Government for the Salvadoran Army is mounting, and when oppression in this Central American nation is growing in severity with all its consequences such as murder, imprisonment and torture."

Nicaragua, the statement goes on, supported those political leaders in El Salvador who are looking for a political solution without any interference whatsoever.

NATIONAL AIRLINE SUSPENDS FLIGHTS TO EL SALVADOR

PA191513 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2029 GMT 18 Feb 81

[Text] Managua, 18 Feb (ACA-EFE)--Moises Hassan, member of the Nicaraguan junta of national reconstruction, today said that the state-owned airline Lanica is continuing operations, but without flights to El Salvador "for security reasons."

In a news conference held at the government house, Hassan said that "being a Nicarguan is a crime" in El Salvador and as a result of this, Lanica vans have been obstructed and have even been involved in incidents in their work, just because they bear a sign which identifies them as property of Nicargua. He added that Lanica cannot risk the lives of the passengers, whether Nicarguan or foreigners, and the pilots or the security of the planes.

He explained that the Nicaraguan Government was renting two jets from a U.S. citizen who resides in Florida. Lanica has rented a plane from Lacsa, the Costa Rican Airline, because the Sandinist Government considers the contract with the American, whose name was not disclosed, "onerous."

Hassan said that the flights to Miami have continued but without the services of the two jets.

FOREIGN MINISTRY REFUTES APOLOGY REPORTS

PA191432 Paris AFP in Spanish 1910 GMT 18 Feb 81

[Text] Managua, 18 Feb (AFP)--The Nicaraguan Foreign Ministry refuted today an official Honduran report according to which the Nicaraguan Government had given the Honduran Government explanations for the recent border incidents.

One of the dispatches datelined in Tegucigalpa said that the Nicaraguan Government had admitted "the incursion of the Sandinist Army patrol in Honduran territory," and that the Nicaraguan Foreign Ministry had apologized.

Another dispatch said that another Nicaraguan military patrol had captured three Honduran citizens in Honduran territory and that the Managua government had admitted the fact.

The Foreign Ministry said, however, that these reports "contain no element of truth."

Nicaragua, the Foreign Ministry said, recently issued an official statement rejecting Honduran charges that a Nicaraguan helicopter had machinegunned a Honduran Army patrol at the beginning of this month.

JUNTA TO PUNISH OCCUPATION OF PRIVATE LANDS

PA172252 Paris AFP in Spanish 1953 GMT 16 Feb 81

[Text] Managua, 16 Feb (AFP)--Sergio Ramierz, member of the Nicaraguan Government junta, today warned that "the revolution will not tolerate any more land occupations."

Ramirez was emphatic in stressing that whoever occupies somebody else's land in the future will be evicted by the police.

Ramirez spoke at a meeting in Jinotega, 150 km north of Managua, where problems created by the occupation of privately-owned lands in that zone and in other areas of the country were analyzed.

Groups of peasants have disobeyed the official prohibition and have occupied some private farms, especially in the northern and eastern part of the country.

During the same meeting, Sandinist Commander Victor Tirado admitted that some leaders of the Farmworkers Association, a peasant organization sponsored by the Sandinist movement, have committed abuses, and he promised that they would be called in and ordered to change their attitudes.

Ramierez was also emphatic in stressing that "lands are no longer being confiscated in the country," thus reiterating a decision announced several months ago by the government and the Sandinist Front.

The indiscriminate occupation of lands was threatening to upset the productive system in the fields at a time when Nicaragua is facing foreign pressures that force it to increase domestic production.

JUNTA CONFIRMS TOMAS BORGE AS INTERIOR MINISTER

PA190109 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1800 GMT 18 Feb 81

[Text] The government junta has confirmed Commander of the Revolution Tomas Borge as interior minister. There will be three deputy interior ministers: Commander of the Revolution Luis Carrion, who was confirmed in his position, and Brigade Commanders Jose Valdivia and Rene Vivas.

FSLN REPORTS ON FIRST SANDINIST ASSEMBLY

PA192147 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 0300 GMT 19 Feb 81

[Press communique of the National Directorate of Sandinist National Liberation Front]

[Text] The National Directorate of the Sandinist National Liberation Front [FSLN] reports to the Nicaraguan people that the first meeting of the Sandinist Assembly, top consultative body of the FSLN, was held on 7, 8, 14 and 15 February.

During those days, national and international subjects of interest to the Sandinist people's revolution were analyzed from the standpoint that they are elements which have an effect on the current times. These subjects included Central American problems, effects of the international situation in Latin America, Central America and particularly Nicaragua, the country's economic and political problems and aspects related to the development of the revolution and national defense.

The Sandinist Assembly also discussed partisan and popular organizations' problems as a result of the demands that the advance and march of our process pose to the vanguard and the Nicaraguan people.

In this area, two particularly important commissions were established. One commission will prepare the draft of the statutes of the FSLN. It is chaired by Commander of the Revolution Luis Carrion Cruz. The other commission will analyze the role of the working class in the Sandinist revolution. It is chaired by Commander of the Revolution Victor Tirado Lopez.

This first meeting of the Sandinist Assembly was characterized by a clear understanding of the scope of the subjects analyzed. The discussions were enriched by the important ideas and views contributed by its members.

In the next few days after this partisan consultation, the FSLN National Directorate, in ordinary sessions, will be discussing the positions that the FSLN will adopt regarding important national and international problems.

Companeros Jacinto Suarez and Commander Francisco Rivera were integrated as members of the Sandinist Assembly.

Free fatherland or death. Sandino Yesterday, Sandino today, Sandino always.

Secretariat of the FSLN National Directorate.

FSLN OFFICIAL MEETS WITH CANADIAN LABOR LEADERS

PA192238 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 0300 GMT 19 Feb 81

[Text] It is a fact that there are sectors in the world are enemies of our efforts. They do not want to understand that the peoples are the owners of their own history. We face not only internal limitations but those artificially created abroad. This was stated by Julio Lopez, in charge of the International Relations Department of the Sandinist National Liberation Front [FSLN].

In the name of the FSLN, I thank you for your greetings to the Nicaraguan people and our revolution, Lopez said this afternoon to 22 Canadian labor leaders who are visiting Nicaragua. We are happy to receive these greetings of solidarity from the Canadian workers whom you represent, Companero Lopez added.

Gen Augusto Cesar Sandino, father of the anti-imperialist revolution, said that due to the severity of the struggle, the timid and the indecisive would abandon it and that only the workers and peasants would last till the end.

[Words indistinct] since our revolution faces a number of pressures, we are pleased to receive the solid support of other peoples, Companero Lopez said.

You know something about our people's efforts to reconstruct the fatherland. Our workers have been making great sacrifices to strengthen the revolution. Just as the best of our people were the ones who achieved the overthrow of the Somozist dictatorship, so too the best of our people are the ones who eagerly participate in the productive tasks, Companero Lopez said.

Nevertheless, it is a fact that there are sectors in the world that are opposed to our efforts. They don't want to understand that the peoples are the owners of their own history and they see in these peoples a threat to their selfish interests, Lopez said.

This situation, he added, makes the efforts of our workers and peasants to reconstruct the new father more difficult and severe. Added to this are the difficulties that they want to create from abroad. Here is an example: In 1981 our coffee exports will be worth $150 million, but we will have to pay $160 million for petroleum this year. We will pay $190 million to service the foreign debt inherited from Somozism. This is just a small indication of the limitations of our revolution.

Here is Compañero Julio Lopez when he spoke with 22 Canadian union delegates in the conference roo . of the Ricardo Morales Aviles Building:

[Begin recording] This means that the efforts of our urban and rural workers have to be truly huge in order to be able to face the great economic difficulties that we have inherited.

We can say with pride that in 1980 our urban and rural workers carried out a truly heroic and hard effort.

Nevertheless, these difficulties become truly dramatic when we not only have to face the internal limitations but when we also have to face the pressures which have been artificially created from abroad.

The United States has given what it describes as a pause to $16 million which were approved for 1981 [corrects himself] for 1980 (?of a) loan about which they produced an unprecedented uproar.

A few days ago they ordered the interruption of an almost $10 million loan that had also been approved for the purchase of wheat. So, beginning in March there will be no bread in Nicaragua. To this is added other pressures in the political area in order to try to weaken the support that we have been receiving from the democratic forces.

The difficulties that our people face continue to be truly serious but our people have confidence in their revolution. They have confidence because they are the ones who carried out the revolution. They are the ones who are reconstructing the fatherland with their work. [Words indistinct] aware of the limitations. But the effort and sacrifice of our workers and peasants will not be enough. Without the international solidarity that our people received perhaps it would not have been possible to overthrow the dictatorship. Without the solidarity of the workers of the world, it will be difficult to overcome our difficulties. Our people are determined to face adversity.

The (?National Directorate) has said that no one will make this revolution take a single step backward. It is urgent that the expressions of solidarity be increased.

The struggle of Sandino's people is nothing but a small part of the struggles of the peoples of the world. [end recording]

EMBASSY PROTECTION INCREASED; NO NEWS ON HOSTAGES

PA200343 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0128 GMT 20 Feb 81

[Text] Havana, 19 Feb (EFE)--The Cuban Ministry of Foreign Relations today told the ambassadors and charges d'affaires of nations which have diplomatic representations in this capital that the protection of embassies and diplomatic residences has been reinforced.

The Cuban Foreign Ministry summoned the heads of missions to explain these measures and, as far as EFE was able to learn, to ask for their cooperation. It had already been noticed recently that fixed guards had been increased and that traffic had been prohibited on the streets surrounding embassies. Also, there are mobile patrol units in front of these buildings. The purpose is to avoid the access of persons not authorized by the embassies and to prevent a repetition of the situation now existing at the Ecuadorean mission.

Regarding the attack on this embassy, nothing has leaked out in connection with talks being held since Monday by an Ecuadorean delegation and members of the Cuban Government. The delegation, which is made up by Presidential Adviser Jaime Moncayo, Foreign Ministry Under Secretary Cornelio Marchan and government official Luis Gallegos, continued throughout the day to gather information about the occupiers. It is believed this is practically complete. When the government has sufficient information, it might make public its position, although the Cuban authorities have already cautioned that they will not negotiate with the abductors until they release the hostages and lay down their weapons.

The publication by the Cuban PRENSA LATINA news agency of a report about the police records of three of the attackers accused of common crimes, is interpreted here as a wish to establish clearly the position that the abductors are not "politically persecuted" persons and therefore, do not qualify for "asylum." No special movements have been noticed around the embassy and the "no man's land" created in front of the building is only broken to bring in food, which is being picked up by Secretary Mercedes Vazquez, EFE has learned. Inside, it is believed that one of the three rooms of the small diplomatic mission continues to hold Ambassador Jorge Perez Concha and Adviser Francisco Proano, who were taken hostage along with the above-mentioned secretary last Friday by a group of more than 20 persons requesting "political asylum" and "to leave the country."

HAVANA REPORTS PRESIDENT REAGAN'S ECONOMIC PROGRAM

FL191126 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 19 Feb 81

[Text] The so-called economic program submitted by President Ronald Reagan to congress last night, which provides for radical budget cutbacks in assistance programs to the unemployed and to millions and millions of U.S. citizens who live in poverty, mainly nonwhites, has provoked a storm of protests among labor unions, mass organizations and humanitarian institutions.

The program, however, was acclaimed by the more reactionary sectors in the country and the great magnates of private enterprise, which is being given free reign to broaden its profit margins by discontinuing restrictions and controls which protect the consumer and the environment. It is a program of millionaires for millionaires, a union leader told a television network in an interview. Exempted from cutbacks is the military budget which the Reagan administration aims to raise the unbelievable amount of 221 billion dollars, an unprecedented figure even in the United States, in the next fiscal year.

MORA HERMAN: DRUMS OF WAR BEAT IN WHITE HOUSE

FL190255 Havana Domestic Television Service in Spanish 0100 GMT 19 Feb 81

[Carlos Mora Herman commentary]

[Text] Martial airs seem to be playing in the White House ever since the new resident, Ronald Reagan, assumed the imperial throne on 20 January. His inauguration reflected the system to a large extent: bullet-proof glass and vests, thousands of security agents, fanfare and carnival-like parades.

What is commonly called the rightwing--and what can also be called the conservatives, the ultrareactionaries or Yankee neonazism--has come to power in Washington with Reagan. The drums of war have been institutionalized. Meanwhile, arms manufacturers rub their hands in glee and calculate their profits on their modern computers. The U.S. warmongers want to show off their talents and seem intent on teaching a lesson in Central America, specifically, El Salvador.

The fledgling imperialists approved the Monroe Doctrine 158 years ago on 2 December 1823. The document stated that America was for the Americans as far as the European empires were concerned. Those who thought that the term Americans referred to all those who live on this continent [as heard] were not long in realizing their mistake. Americans were and are the Yankees; and not even all Yankees--only those who represent the imperial system and defend capitalism, private property and free enterprise. Monroe believed that America should belong to the big monopolies, the big transnational companies, arms manufacturers and businessmen. America was the source of raw material to make the empire richer and enable it to start creating a standard of living for the empire's privileged.

And that is how the imperial government of Mr Reagan raises the Monroe Doctrine today to tell the world that Central America belongs to the Americans, to the North Americans, and that the Christian-Democratic military junta must be kept in power in El Salvador regardless of cost, a junta that seems to literally follow the saying, speak softly and carry a big stick, and daily murders scores of Salvadorans.

Warmongering Gen Alexander Haig sends messages to his partners in Europe asking support for direct military intervention in El Salvador. He asks in a letter addressed to the European Economic Community that the program to assist Salvadoran refugees, humble citizens fleeing from the junta's genocide, be suspended. The messenger bearing the letter is no other than (Lawrence Eagleburger), a well-known CIA agent, who is beginning his tour of Western Europe as Haig's messenger boy.

Republican Senator Charles Percy says that the Washington government has not discarded Yankee military intervention in El Salvador, and adds that the Caribbean and Central America are of vital importance to the United States.

As in the empire's heyday, they fabricate stories to justify this brutal intervention about a communist threat and about Cuban, Vietnamese, Ethiopian and Soviet involvement in El Salvador. This is really cause for indignation because it shows that they will stop at nothing, not even the most cynical lies, to carry out their plans of aggression.

A leader of Sweden's Social Democratic Party, Pier Schorre, has just criticized the United States for its policy in El Salvador. Schorre says that there is conclusive evidence that the Reagan government has increased arms deliveries to the Salvadoran Christian Democratic junta and accuses Washington of pressuring socialist international leaders and parties so that they will support Yankee interventionist plans in the small Central American country.

The United States, the empire which for 158 years has trampled the rights of the Latin American and Caribbean peoples, brutally attacked Guatemala, Haiti, the Dominican Republic, Nicaragua and Mexico--seizing most of this latter country's territory--the nation that has evaded all treaties and has, without any misgivings, exploited our people, now tries to appear as the defender of democracy and freedom, supporting gangs of murderers who hold on to power by criminal means in El Salvador and other countries. The situation would be funny were it not also tragic. It may once more turn into painful reality for El Salvador.

PROFESSIONALS RECEIVE DOCTOR OF SCIENCES DEGREES

FL191406 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1145 GMT 19 Feb 81

[Text] During a solemn ceremony held at the Assembly Hall of the University of Havana, 135 professionals have been awarded the degree of doctor of sciences for the first time in our country. PCC Politburo members Carlos Rafael Rodriguez, Sergio del Valle and Armando Hart presided at the ceremony and Jose Ramon Fernandez, member of the PCC Central Committee and vice president of the Council of Ministers, made the closing remarks.

Following the presentation of the degree of doctor of economic sciences to Carlos Rafael Rodriguez by Armando Hart, the names of the other 134 professionals were called and degrees of doctor of sciences in the fields of agriculture, arts, biology, philology, philosophy, geography, laws, history, medicine, education, chemistry, sociology, technology and veterinary medicine were awarded. There was a moment of great emotion when the name of Blas Roca Calderio was called. He was awarded the degree of doctor of juridical sciences. Roca was given a great ovation even though it had been requested that the applause were to be withheld until all names had been called.

Doctor in philological sciences Vicentina Antuna made a speech on behalf of all the professionals and, after expressing profound gratitude for the honor, closed her remarks with a saying by Jose Marti: Having served a lot forces one to continue to serve. In his closing speech Jose Ramon Fernandez noted that these 135 professionals have recorded outstanding achievements in their respective fields, that they have attained unquestionable prestige nationally and that they have observed a behavior and loyalty to the revolutionary process which makes them worthy of such an exceptional distinction.

DEL VALLE CHAIRS ACADEMY OF SCIENCE CEREMONY

FL191246 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 19 Feb 81

[Text] PCC Politburo member and Public Health Minister Sergio del Valle has chaired at the Camilio Cienfuegos Auditorium of Cuba's Academy of Science the opening ceremony of the week of activities commemorating the 100th anniversary of the Carlos J. Finlay's medical discovery.

In his opening remarks Wilfredo Torres, member of the PCC Central Committee and president of the Academy of Sciences, recalled that 100 years ago Finlay submitted to the consideration of the international sanitary conference in Washington his three theses on Yellow Fever. Torres said that this medical finding not only was important in eradicating that horrible disease which had killed millions of persons but also had universal repercussion by opening new frontiers for science in general.